

Message Text

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22

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 PC-01 AID-05 /083 W

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P R 150746Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0232

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF EXECUTIONS

REF: ADDIS 8331

1. ADDIS HAS CONTINUED REMAIN GENERALLY CALM AT LEAST ON SURFACE. EVEN MOST GUN JEEPS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN. MENGISTU REPORTEDLY WAS TO EXPLAIN EPMG ACTION TO TWO GROUPS OF TROOPS AND POLICE JULY 14 AND 15 AND APPARENTLY DID SO FOR FIRST GROUP AT OLD AIRPORT IN ADDIS ON JULY 14 JUDGING FROM ASSEMBLAGE OF MILITARY VEHICLES THERE DURING LATE MORNING HOURS. DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS STILL TRYING TO SORT OUT SIGNIFICANCE OF EXECUTIONS. SOME BELIEVE MAJOR KIROS ALEMAYEHU WHOSE FATE WAS LEFT UNDECIDED MAY ALREADY BE DEAD, BUT MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT WHETHER HE IS OR NOT, ANY FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE WITHHELD UNTIL AFTER ZEMECHA CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEKEND.

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2. MEANWHILE FOCUS OF ATTENTION IS BEGINNING TO SHIFT AT LEAST TEMPORARILY TO ZEMECHA CELEBRATION SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JULY 17, TO COMMEMORATE COMPLETION OF 1974-1976 PROGRAM. FOUR AND HALF HOUR PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR REVOLUTION SQUARE THAT MORNING TO INCLUDE SPEECHES AND PARADE. NOT SURPRISINGLY GIVEN HISTORY OF PROGRAM AND WELL-KNOWN ATTITUDES OF MANY ZEMATCH TOWARD DIRG, CONSIDERABLE CONCERN IS ALREADY BEING EXPRESSED THAT CELEBRATION WILL GET OUT OF HAND. WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT EPMG IS PRESENTLY ASSEMBLING LARGE CONTINGENT OF POLICE AND SOLDIERS TO TRY AND ENSURE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER. EMBASSY WILL NONETHELESS TAKE PRECAUTIONS. TIENKEN

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